

of the claims are neither suggested nor motivated by Dockser.

Claim 1 includes limitations that are related to randomly generating a set of parameter values for a logic core, generating a netlist from the logic core and randomly generated parameter values, and simulating a circuit using the netlist. Dockser teaches a tool for developing an integrated circuit design (Abstract). Dockser's tool creates an HDL template, creates a parameter file, encrypts the HDL template, ..., creates HDL for synthesis, and creates netlists for the HDL (Abstract). Dockser clearly neither teaches nor suggests the claim limitations of randomly generating a set of parameter values. Specifically, Dockser teaches:

In a step 304, a parameter file and a parameter check file are created for each HDL template. The portion of each HDL template which pertains to parameters is obtained from the HDL template and used to create a parameter file. As such, the parameter file includes information used to define global parameters for the HDL template with which the parameter file is associated. As will be described below with respect to FIG. 4, the parameter file typically also includes information which may be used to define a user input window for the HDL template. That is, the parameter file is typically used to define a Graphical User Interface (GUI). (col. 6, ll. 25-36).

...
After the menu is created and displayed, input is received from the user in a step 404. The input may include, but is not limited to, design specifications in the form of parameters, requests to perform operations using parameters, and requests to abort the process of developing design specifications. (col. 6, ll. 59-64).

These teachings clearly show that Dockser neither teaches nor suggests the claim limitations. Furthermore, the Dockser teachings cited in the of the rejection neither teach nor suggest these limitations. Specifically, Dockser's FIGs. 1B and 4 only teach generating a parameter

file as indicated in the replicated text above. Therefore, claim 1 is not anticipated by Dockser, and the rejection should be withdrawn. If the rejection is maintained, further clarification as to the specific teachings of Dockser that are alleged to correspond to the claim limitations is requested so that the issue may be further addressed.

Claim 2 includes limitations that relate to generating a random parameter value within predetermined upper and lower limits, and generating a new random parameter value if the random parameter value fails to meet predetermined criteria. The rejection merely alleges that Dockser anticipates these limitations without citing any specific teachings of Dockser. These limitations do not appear to be taught by Dockser, and therefore, the rejection should be withdrawn. Otherwise, reference to specific teachings of Dockser that allegedly correspond to the claim limitations is requested so that the issue may be further addressed.

Claim 3 includes limitations that relate to assigning respective probabilities to numbers between upper and lower limits for the parameters and generating the random parameter value as a function of the probabilities. The rejection alleges that these limitations are taught at col. 8, l. 56 - col. 9, l. 32. However, this section of Dockser teaches that "the parameter file is traversed to find all possible permutations of parameter combinations, which are then used to create a list of desired options sets." Dockser neither teaches nor suggests assigning probabilities and the related limitations. Therefore, claim 3 is not anticipated and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 4 includes limitations that relate to providing a parameter value as input to a GUI and generating random replacement values for invalid values detected by the GUI. The rejection merely alleges that "Dockser anticipated user interface for input data values" without citing any specific teachings of Dockser. These limitations are not taught by Dockser, and therefore, the rejection should be withdrawn. Otherwise, reference to specific teachings of Dockser that allegedly correspond to the claim limitations is requested so that the issue may be further addressed.

Claims 5-17 were rejected on the basis of Dockser's col. 8, l. 56 - col. 9, l. 32. These claims include various limitations that are clearly neither taught nor suggested by Dockser. For example, claim 5 includes limitations that relate to providing the randomly generated set of parameter values to a GUI and identifying invalid parameter values with the GUI. The cited portion of Dockser teaches:

FIG. 6 illustrates the process of determining an appropriate macro block architecture for use in developing design specifications in more detail. The process 418 begins at 600 and, in a step 602, the parameter file associated with an HDL template is used to create a list of desired option sets, or a list of desired parameter combinations. In some embodiments, the parameter file is traversed to find all possible permutations of parameter combinations, which are then used to create a list of desired option sets. In other embodiments, the list of desired option sets is a subset of all possible option sets. In a step 604, an option set is selected from the list of option sets. A determination is made in a step 606 regarding whether there are any remaining option sets which have yet to be selected and analyzed. If there are no remaining option sets to be selected, then the indication is that all of the desired option sets have previously been selected and analyzed in terms of determining an appropriate macro block for use in the synthesis of a logic design, and the process of selecting an appropriate macro block is completed at 612.

If it is determined in step 606 that there are other desired option sets which may be selected, then process flow proceeds to a step 608 in which the macro blocks instantiated in the HDL template are compiled with the selected option set. Each macro block instantiated with the HDL template is called and compiled, to determine the performance of each macro block in combination with the selected option set.

In a step 610, the compiled macro blocks are analyzed, and the results of the analysis are typically evaluated and presented in a report which may be read by a logic designer. The report may include, but is not limited to, evaluations of the size, the speed, and the porosity, i.e. a measure of the ease of routing of a given design on an actual chip, of a logic design for each macro block compiled with the option set. The results of the analysis and subsequent evaluation are usually used to determine the most appropriate macro block to use for a given purpose. Once the compiled macro blocks are analyzed and evaluated, process control returns to step 604 and the selection of the next option set. It should be appreciated that when process control returns to step 604, information regarding the macro block which is most appropriate to use for a given purpose, based upon the option sets which have been previously been compiled with macro blocks, is available. **col. 8, l. 56 - col. 9, l. 32.**

This clearly illustrates that Dockser does not teach the limitations of claim 5. Furthermore, claims 6-17 include further limitations that are neither taught nor suggested by Dockser. Therefore, claims 5-17 are not anticipated by Dockser and the rejection should be withdrawn. Otherwise, an explanation as to the specific teachings of Dockser that allegedly correspond to the specific claim limitations is requested so that the matter may be further addressed.

Claim 18 includes limitations that relate to a system for testing a parameterizable logic core, including limitations analogous to claim 1. Therefore, claim 18 is not anticipated by Dockser for at least the reasons set forth above for claim 1.

Claim 19 includes limitations analogous to those of claim 1 with the addition of a GUI driver. Therefore,

claim 19 is not anticipated by Dockser for at least the reasons set forth above for claim 1.

Claim 20 includes limitations analogous to those of claim 1 in the form of an apparatus. Therefore, claim 20 is not anticipated by Dockser for at least the reasons set forth above for claim 1.

Reconsideration and a notice of allowance are respectfully requested in view of the Remarks presented above. If any action other than allowance is contemplated by the Examiner, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone Applicant's agent, Lois D. Cartier, at 720-652-3733.

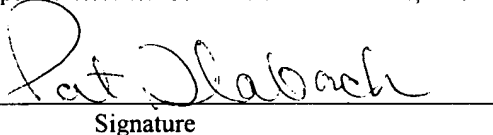
Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on June 21, 2002.

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Signature